also been introduced in Delhi from 15.8.97. Pre-mix oils are being supplied in the retail fuel outlets to prevent sale of loose low quality oils;

➔ Introduction of cleaner fuels such j as CNG for in-use vehicles in order to reduce emissions;

➔ >• Service stations and workshops have been authorised by the Department of Transport, Government of Delhi for pollution checking/tuning of polluting vehicles and issuance of "Pollution Under Control" Certificates. Pollution diecking facilities are being enhanced henceforth. The transport department has launched public awareness campaign in Delhi to educate people about the statutory punitive provisions related to vehicular pollution, health hazards and maintenance measures for the control of pollution from vehicles;

➔ system of synchronized signals and better traffic management of most polluted traffic intersections has been introduced;

➔ A number of polluting industries located in non-conforming areas in Delhi has been closed and relocated to conforming areas;

➔ Electro-static precipitators have been installed at 3 thermal power plants in Delhi at Indraprastha, Rajghat and Badarpur to prevent the release of Suspended Particulate Matter into the atmosphere. Sulphur dioxide and oxides of nitrogen are emitted through stacks of specified height to facilitate wider dispersal so that the ground level concentration of these gaseous pollutants are kept within the limits. Stack monitoring is done on regular basis;

➔ Phasing out of old commercial vehicles is one of the measures proposed for controlling pollution- in Delhi which has been initiated from October, 1998.

Loss Due to Use of Inferior Quality Machines in Vehicles

1429. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to World Bank Report on pollution, Government of India is losing nearly eight billion dollars because of the use of adulterated POL and inferior quality of machinery in vehicles;

(b) whether it is also a fact that India has to iose nearly Rs. 20 billion dollars, recurring annually;

(c) if so,the facts and details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken to curb the menace?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) to (c) According to a World Bank paper, the economy wide cost of environmental degradation in India is $ 9.7. billion per year, which includes urban air pollution, water pollution (health impacts), water pollution (production impacts), industrial hazardous waste, soil degradation, rangeland degradation, deforestation, coastal and marine resources, loss of biodiversity and tourism.

(d) The steps taken by the Government are:

(1) The Government has formulated a comprehensive Policy Statement for Abatement of Pollution which envisages integration of environmental and economic aspects of development planning, lays stress on preventive aspects of pollution abatement and

promotion of technological inputs to reduce industrial pollution.

(2) Fiscal incentives are provided for installation of pollution control equipment and also for the shifting of industries from congested areas.

(3) Low lead petrol had been introduced in the four metro cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta and Chennai w.e.f. June 1994. Subsequently, unleaded petrol was introduced in the above mentioned 4 cities with effect from 1st April, 1995. Effective 1st September, 1998, only unleaded petrol is being supplied in Delhi.

(4) Gross emission standards for on-road vehicles and mass emission standards for all categories of new vehicles have been notified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 and are being enforced by the department of Transport in various States.

(5) For control of pollution from vehicles, emission norms for both petrol and diesel driven vehicles at the manufacturing stage were introduced for the first time in 1990 and made tighter in 1996. More stringent emission norms have also been notified and will come into effect from 1.4.2000.

(6) Specification of 2-stroke engine oil has been notified which shall be effective from 1.4.1999.

(7) Surveys have been conducted by the Central Pollution Control Board on the vehicular emission in the major cities in the country. The findings of the survey have been used for taking mitigative measures.

(8) The ambient air quality of various cities and towns are being monitored regularly through a network of 290 monitoring stations under the National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme.

(9) Emission from highly polluting industrial units and thermal power plants are regularly monitored by the Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Boards and action is taken against the defaulting units.

(10) Emissions and ambient air quality standards have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

(11) The Ministry has initiated the environmental epidemiological studies in seven critically polluted areas v.z. Vapi (Gujarat), Angul-Talcher (Orissa), Chembur (Bombay), Cochin (Kerala), Kanpur (U.P.), Mandi-Govindarh (Punjab), Delhi. The initial feedback from the studies infers that symptomatic morbidity (eye irritation, respiratory problem, and skin lesion/ irritation) is high in the areas of industrial activity.

(12) A scheme for setting up of common effluent treatment plants in different industrial areas and estates for treating effluents from clusters of small-scale industrial units has been taken up.

(13) The Ministry in order to enforce and monitor the implementation of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification has constituted : (a) National Coastal Zone Management Authority under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment & Forests and 13 UT/State level Coastal Zone Management authorities. The Notification in this regard has been issued. The main obejctives of above Authorities are to look into the various issues related to coastal areas, enforcement of CRZ regulations, preparation of management plans in the economical stretches, ecologically fragile stretches.

"Construction of reservoir Across Mathadivagu"

1430. SHRI C. RAMACHAND RAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state: